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What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula:

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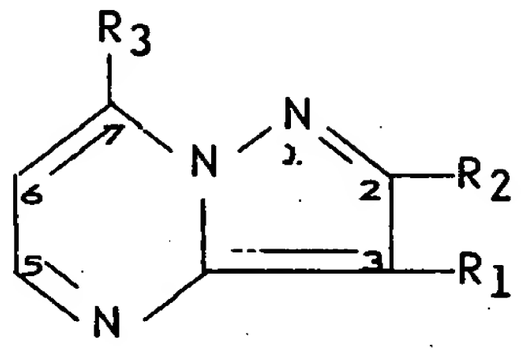
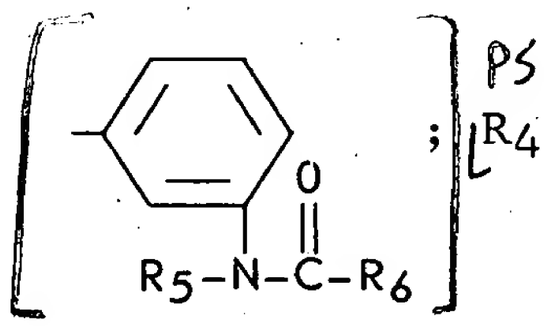


PS wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, cyano and T0321X $\left[\begin{matrix}O\\ \|\\ -C-R_4;\end{matrix}\right]_{PS}$ R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl($C_{1-14}C_3$); R_3 is

T0322X  PS; R_4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl($C_{1-14}C_6$) and alkoxy($C_{1-14}C_6$); R_5 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl($C_{1-14}C_6$), alkenyl($C_{2-14}C_6$), $_{13}$-$CH_2C\equiv CH$, cycloalkyl($C_{3-14}C_6$)methyl, $_{13}$-CH_2OCH_3 and $_{13}$-$CH_2CH_2OCH_3$; and R_6 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl($C_{1-14}C_6$), cycloalkyl($C_{3-14}C_6$), $_{13}$-O-alkyl($C_{1-14}C_6$), $_{13}$-NH-alkyl($C_{1-14}C_3$), $_{13}$-N-dialkyl($C_{1-14}C_3$), $_{13}$-$(CH_2)_n$-O-alkyl($C_{1-14}C_3$), $_{13}$-$(CH_2)_n$-NH-alkyl($C_{1-14}C_3$) and $_{13}$-$(CH_2)_n$-N-dialkyl($C_{1-14}C_3$), where n is an integer 1 to 3 inclusive.

2. A compound according to Claim 1, wherein

T0323X $\left[\begin{matrix}O\\ \|\\ -C-R_4;\end{matrix}\right]_{PS}$ R_1 is cyano or R_2 is hydrogen; R_4 is alkyl($C_{1-14}C_6$), alkenyl($C_{2-14}C_6$) or $_{13}$-$CH_2C\equiv CH$; and R_6 is alkyl($C_{1-14}C_6$), cycloalkyl($C_{3-14}C_6$) or $_{13}$-O-alkyl($C_{1-14}C_6$).

3. The compound according to Claim 2, which is N-[3-(3-cyanopyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl)phenyl]-N-ethylpropanamide.

4. The compound according to Claim 2, which is N-[3-(3-cyanopyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl)phenyl]-N-ethylacetamide.

5. The compound according to Claim 2, which is N-[3-(3-cyanopyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl)phenyl]-N-propylacetamide.

6. The compound according to Claim 2, which is [3-(3-cyanopyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl)phenyl]methyl-carbamic acid, methyl ester.

7. The compound according to Claim 2, which is 7-[3-[(methoxycarbonyl)methylamino]phenyl]pyrazolo-[1,5-a]pyrimidine-3-carboxylic acid, ethyl ester.

8. The compound according to Claim 2, which is [3-(3-cyanopyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl)phenyl] ethylcarbamic acid, methyl ester.

9. The compound according to Claim 2, which is ethyl(3-pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-ylphenyl)carbamic acid, ethyl ester.

10. The compound according to Claim 2, which is [3-(3-chloropyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl)phenyl]ethyl-carbamic acid, ethyl ester.

11. The compound according to Claim 2, which is N-[3-(3-cyanopyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl)phenyl]-N-2-propenylacetamide.

12. The compound according to Claim 2, which is N-[3-(3-cyanopyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl)phenyl]-N-2-propynylacetamide.

13. The compound according to Claim 2, which is N-[3-(3-cyanopyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-7-yl)phenyl]-N-methylacetamide.

14. A method of ameliorating anxiety in a mammal which comprises administering to said mammal an amount of a compound of Claim 1 sufficient to reduce anxiety.

15. A method of treating epilepsy in a mammal which comprises administering to said mammal an anticonvulsive amount of a compound of Claim 1.

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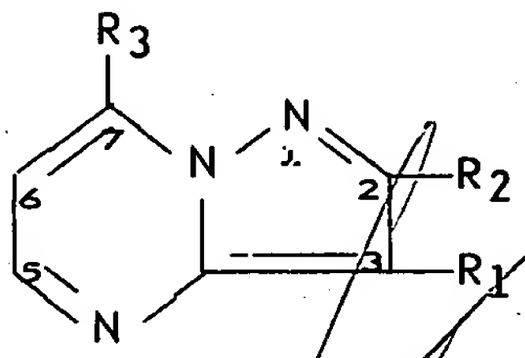
16. A method of inducing sedation or hypnosis in a mammal which comprises administering to said mammal an amount of a compound of Claim 1 sufficient to effect sedation or hypnosis.

17. A method of inducing skeletal muscle relaxation in a mammal which comprises administering to said mammal an amount of a compound of Claim 1 sufficient to relax skeletal muscles.

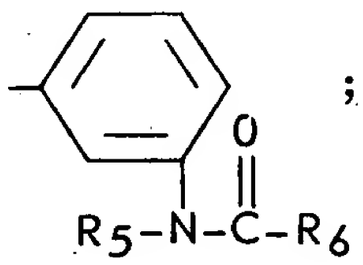
18. A composition of matter in dosage unit form comprising from 2-750 mg of a compound of Claim 1 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. A process for producing a compound of the formula:



wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of

hydrogen, halogen, cyano and $-C-R_4$; R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl(C_1-C_3); R_3 is



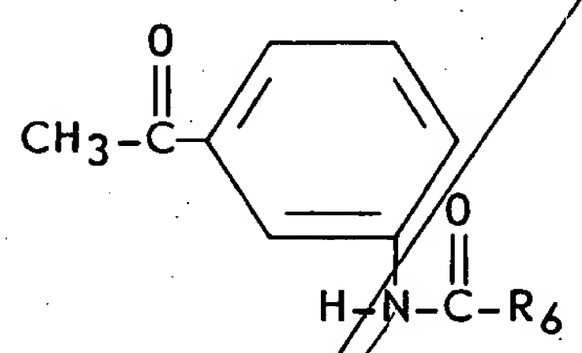
; R_4 is selected from the group consisting of

hydrogen, alkyl(C_1-C_6) and alkoxy(C_1-C_6); R_5 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl(C_1-C_6), alkenyl(C_2-C_6), $-CH_2C\equiv CH$, cycloalkyl(C_3-C_6)methyl, $-CH_2OCH_3$ and $-CH_2CH_2OCH_3$; and R_6 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl(C_1-C_6), cycloalkyl(C_3-C_6), -O-alkyl(C_1-C_6), -NH-alkyl(C_1-C_3), -N-dialkyl(C_1-C_3),

— END —

$-(CH_2)_n$-O-alkyl(C_1-C_3), $-(CH_2)_n$-NH-alkyl(C_1-C_3) and $-(CH_2)_n$-N-dialkyl(C_1-C_3), where n is an integer from 1 to 3 inclusive, which comprises the steps of

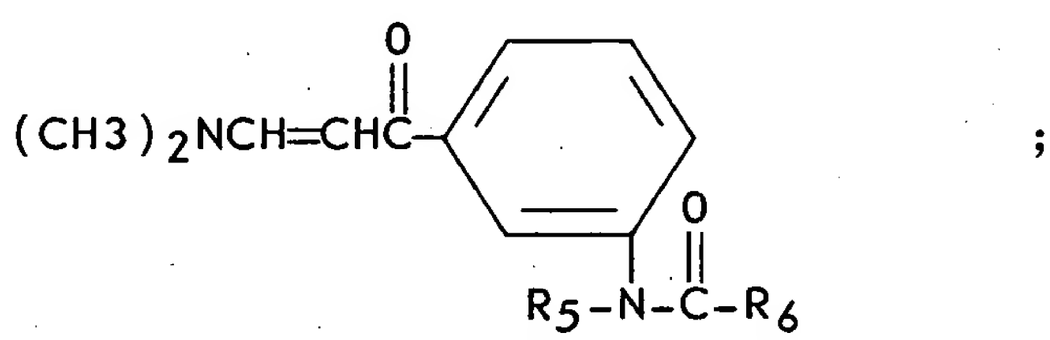
(a) reacting a 1-acetylphenyl-3-amide of the formula:



with dimethylformamide, dimethylacetal at reflux, which produces an N-[3-[3-(dimethylamino)-1-oxo-2-propenyl]phenyl]-alkanamide;

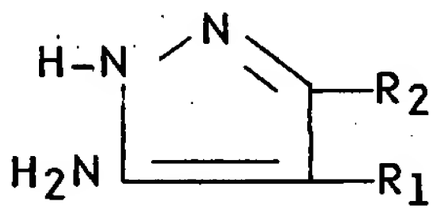
(b) reacting the N-[3-[3-(dimethylamino)-1-oxo-2-propeny] phenyl]alkanamide with sodium hydride, which produces an anion;

(c) reacting the anion generated with an alkyl halide of the formula R_5-X, wherein X is Br or I, which produces an N-[3-[3-(dimethylamino)-1-oxo-2-propenyl]phenyl]-N-alkyl-alkanamide of the formula:



;

(d) reacting the N-[3-[3-(dimethylamino)-1-oxo-2-propenyl]-phenyl]-N-alkylalkanamide with a 3-aminopyrazole of the formula:



in glacial acetic acid at reflux, which reaction gives the desired products.